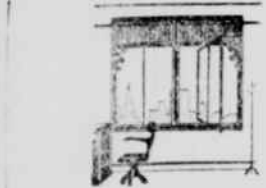


**ENTENTE ARTISTS PUT BAN ON TEUTON ART**

Form Bond at Florence to Prevent Kultur's "Infiltration."

Rome, March 21. Painters, sculptors, composers, musical conductors, actors and writers have formed at Florence an association called "The Entente Artists." The membership comprises French and Englishmen, Russians, Belgians and Serbians. The aim of the organization is to prevent the infiltration of Teutonic artistic influence.

The first act of the Entente was to send a telegram to Premier Briand expressing admiration at the deeds of the French at Verdun.

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**SQUADRONS FIGHT IN NORTH SEA**

Four British and Three German Destroyers Exchange Shots.

**SUCCESS CLAIMED BY BOTH SIDES**

Two of Kaiser's Vessels Hit Before Escaping Into Harbor at Zeebrugge.

London, March 21. An engagement occurred yesterday off the Belgian coast, between four British and three German destroyers. Two of the German vessels were hit. Four men on the British boats were wounded. The official account of the action follows: "Yesterday morning four British destroyers sighted three German destroyers off the Belgian coast. The German destroyers at once turned and ran for Zeebrugge, chased by our own destroyers.

"Shots were exchanged. During this short running fight, two enemy boats were observed to have been hit. Our casualties were four men wounded."

The German Admiralty's account of the battle is as follows: "On March 20, off the coast of Flanders, a fight which was successful for us took place between three German torpedo boats and a division of five British destroyers.

"The enemy broke off the engagement after he had received several direct hits and he steamed out of sight at full speed.

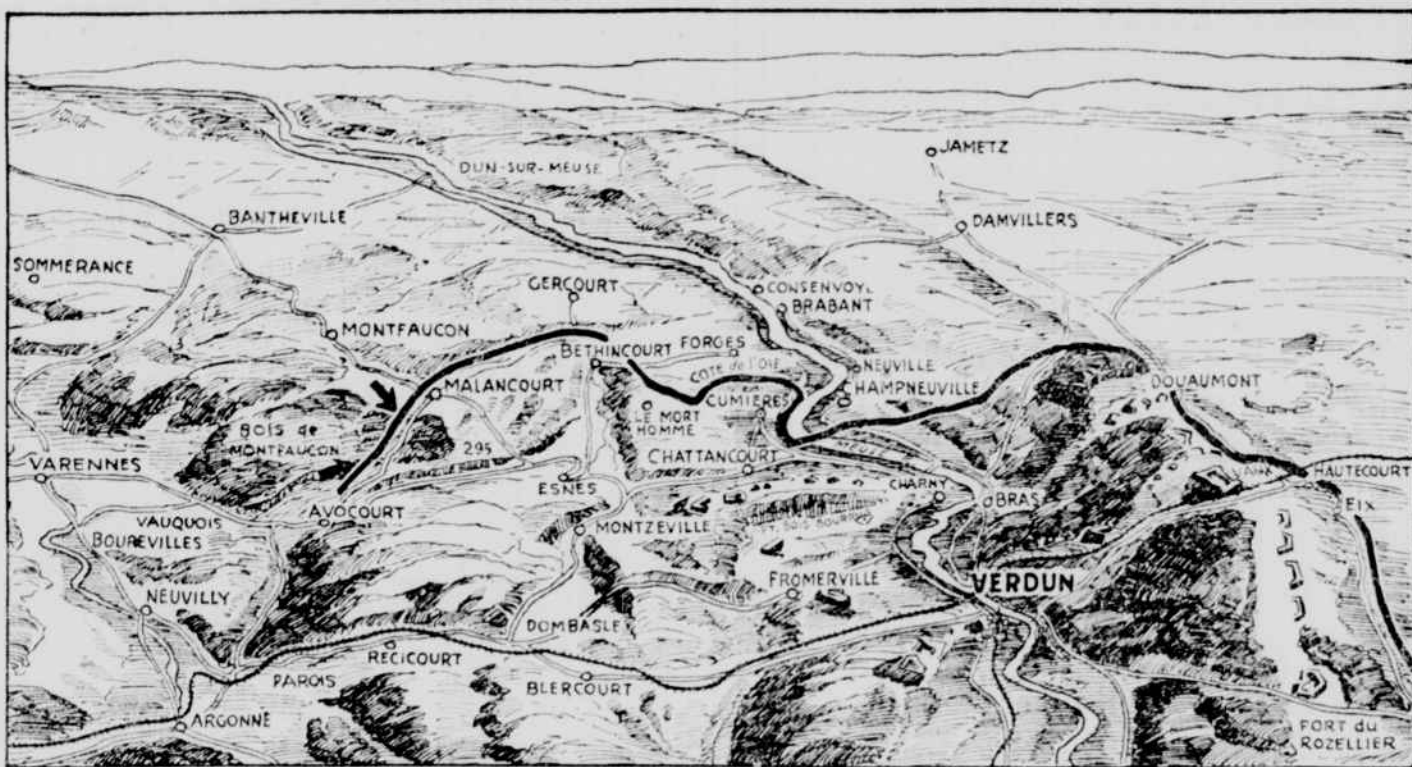
"We suffered only unimportant damage."

**CZAR'S TROOPS OCCUPY OLD PERSIAN CAPITAL**

Take Isfahan in Dash Toward Persian Gulf.

London, March 21.—A Reuter dispatch from Teheran says that Russian

WHERE THE GERMANS ARE SEEKING TO FLANK VERDUN.



With the failure of direct assaults on Le Mort Homme and the Cote de l'Oie, which occupied most of last week, the Crown Prince yesterday began a wide encircling movement from the Bethincourt region. The attack is being made on the front from Malancourt to Avocourt. Checked by French fire the first day, the Germans succeeded yesterday in seizing the Avocourt wood, north of the village of that name, and bringing Esnes and Hill 295 under their fire. Paris reports the repulse of all attempts to debouch from the wood.

forces entered Isfahan, the old capital of Persia, on March 19.

The Russian official says: "After further fighting on the coast line, our troops have again advanced several versts in a westerly direction."

Isfahan is one of the important cities of Persia, with a population of some 80,000. It is 218 miles southeast of Teheran.

The foregoing dispatch indicates a Russian movement further to the south than has been reported hitherto. Russian forces, after the capture of Hamadan, advanced southwest toward Kermanshah, in the direction of the Turkish frontier. The army now reported at Isfahan evidently is striking southward from the main Russian forces, in the direction of the Persian Gulf.

**GERMANS PRESS MEUSE FLANK MOVE**

Continued from page 1

the eighteen or more on the Douaumont side of the river, to bar the way.

Some appreciation of the value the Germans have set on the capture of Le Mort Homme is seen in their employment of the famous Bavarian and Wurtemberg regiments. Ranking in valor with the Prussian Guard, they have been employed by the German staff only in the most dangerous and responsible attacks. It was the Bavarians that were hurled on the British at Ypres. They were the hammer which von Hindenburg used last spring to batter his way through the Russian lines to Warsaw.

There is no denying that the rapid

advance to Avocourt has dampened the optimism that was growing in Paris and London regarding the outcome at Verdun. The attack strikes at even a more vital spot in the French defense than did the assault on Le Mort Homme or the Cote de l'Oie. Successful, it will throw the French back almost on Verdun itself and put the main trunk railway of the fortress in command of German artillery. Already German shells are falling on Esnes, the center of important roads, and on the Bois de Bourrus, the first permanent fortifications west of the Meuse.

Despite repeated denials from Paris, the Germans still claim the capture of Le Mort Homme itself. Thus on its actual possession Berlin and Paris are at odds, as they were over Douaumont and Vaux. Its importance is so great that both sides seek to get all the credit possible from it.

Elsewhere on the front fighting has been only intermittent. The Paris statement says:

"In the Argonne there has been grenade fighting at Haute Chevauchée. Our artillery shelled the German works in the neighborhood of the road between Vienne-le-Chateau and Binarville.

"In Lorraine our artillery was active against the German organizations north and east of Embarras.

"In Upper Alsace our artillery took under its fire enemy troops which had debouched from Niederlitz, southeast of Seppois.

"One of our pilots to-day brought down a German aeroplane, which fell in flames in the region of Douaumont. Last night our aeroplanes bombarded the stations at Dun-sur-Meuse and Audun-le-Roman and bivouacs in the regions of Vigneulles."

The following British official communication was issued this evening:

"Early this morning the enemy attacked and entered a small post on the River Somme, but were driven out, leaving one officer prisoner and two men dead.

"There has been considerable artillery activity on both sides about the Hohenzollern redoubt, Neuve Chapelle and Maunquissart to-day."

**GREECE TELLS ITALY TO MOVE FROM EPIRUS**

Force Entering Neutral Territory Forced to Evacuate.

Paris, March 21.—Italian troops entered Greek territory in Epirus, but retired next day when notified by the commander of the Greek forces that the continued presence of the Italians could not be permitted, according to a statement by Premier Skouloudis in the Greek Chamber of Deputies. The Premier is quoted as replying as follows to questions put in the chamber:

"Italian troops advanced into Greek territory and occupied Faghea, in Epirus. The Greek commander notified the Italian commander that he could not permit Italian troops to remain in Faghea. The Italian officer requested twenty-four hours in which to ask instructions. At the end of that period the Italians retired."

Premier Skouloudis stated that the Italian Minister had given him formal assurance that Italian troops would not violate Greek soil.

"The territory in question constitutes an integral part of Greece," added the Premier.

Milan, March 21.—A Bucharest dispatch to "Il Secolo" says that the Bulgarians are making extensive military preparations along the Rumanian frontier. A number of boats laden with munitions have arrived opposite Giurgevo, and it is believed that the Bulgarians intend to scatter the mines broadcast in the Danube. The Bulgarian newspapers, the dispatch adds, are becoming daily more threatening in tone toward Rumania.

Giurgevo is a town on the Rumanian side of the Danube, forty miles southwest of Bucharest, of which it is the port. Thirty miles below Giurgevo the Danube ceases to divide Rumania and Bulgaria and enters Rumanian territory wholly.

**RUSSIANS TAKE DVINA SALIENT**

Germans Quit Trenches "to Avoid Enemy's Encircling Fire."

**ACTIVITY EXTENDS TO SOUTH OF DVINSK**

Austrian Defenders of Bridgehead in Galicia Decimated in Hand-to-Hand Fight.

London, March 21.—"The Russians," says an official statement issued in Berlin to-day, "are extending their attacks on the furthestmost northern wing, south of Riga, on the Dvina front and west of Jacobstadt." These attacks, according to the statement quoted, "were repulsed with sanguinary losses," but a Petrograd official communication telling of fighting in the Dvinsk region says: "We repulsed an enemy counter attack on Velikoieselo (south of Dvinsk), in the region eastward of Tveretch.

"Our troops captured a line of enemy advance trenches near Butzitski, midway between Dvinsk and Vilna.

A German retreat at Lake Narocz is admitted in the Berlin official statement. "Strong enemy reconnoitering detachments," in the words of the statement, "advancing against our front northwest of Postavy, and between Lakes Narocz and Wisnief, delivered especially strong but fruitless attacks throughout the day and night. The losses of the enemy were proportionate to the number of troops employed. A far protruding narrow salient of our front due south of Lake Narocz has been withdrawn a few hundred metres toward the heights of Ilisnicki to avoid the enemy's encircling fire."

"During the capture of the bridgehead near the village of Mikhaltehe, in Galicia, near the Bukovina border," says the Petrograd statement, "we took two cannon. Most of the defenders of the bridgehead were killed in a hand to hand encounter."

"After six months of brave defence," says the Austrian official statement, "the bridge fortifications, northwest of Usciozko, collapsed on Sunday evening, and were evacuated. Although the Russians succeeded in the morning in causing, by means of explosions, a breach 300 metres wide, the garrison, which was attacked by forces eight-fold superior, held out seven hours longer, notwithstanding all losses, in the face of the most violent artillery and infantry fire. It was not until 5 o'clock in the afternoon that the commanding officer, Colonel Pflueck, determined to evacuate the destroyed fortifications."

"Smaller detachments and the wounded men reached the south bank of the Dniester in boats. Soon, however, it was necessary to abandon the transports, under the concentric fire of the enemy. There remained for our brave troops, composed of Emperor's

Meredith Nicholson's new character is a gentlemanly vagabond who speaks of exclusive clubs and thieves' dens in one breath and has a millionaire's son for a chauffeur. A new kind of story is "The Madness of May" beginning in this week's

**Collier's**  
THE NATIONAL WEEKLY

dragons and sappers, only one way to escape capture. They were under the necessity of cutting a way through Lasciozko, strongly occupied by the enemy, to the troops encamped on the heights north of Zale Szczyk.

"The march directly through the enemy's position succeeded. Under cover of the night Colonel Pflueck led his heroic troops to our advanced posts northwest of Zale Szczyk, where he arrived early Monday morning.

"The battles for the bridge fortifications at Usciozko will remain for all time a glorious page in the annals of our army."

**SERB CROWN PRINCE IN PARIS**

Will Attend Military and Political Conference of Allies.

Paris, March 21.—Crown Prince Alexander of Serbia reached here this afternoon for the military and political conference of the Entente Allies. He was received at the station by President Poincaré, Minister of War Roques and other cabinet members. He was given a cordial reception by a crowd that had gathered.

As Prince Alexander's automobile passed through the Ville du Temple quarter, working girls poured out of the millinery and blouse factories and threw small bunches of violets and carnations by hundreds at the prince and President Poincaré enthusiastically. An immense crowd waited almost in silence in the neighborhood of the hotel where the prince has his quarters and cheered the prince and President Poincaré enthusiastically. The prince was visibly moved by the ovation.

**EGYPT HAILS AUSTRALIANS**

Soldiers and Natives Reported on Most Friendly Terms.

London, March 21.—The experiment of stationing Australians in Egypt seems to be a tremendous success, both from the official and native viewpoint, although the step originally was taken with some trepidation. Australian soldiers and natives appear to have instituted a sort of blood brotherhood. Their relations are extraordinarily friendly, far more so than in the case of any previous troops stationed there.

This curious fact gives point to the denial received in London to-day from Sir Arthur McMahon, who characterizes recent German reports of rioting in Cairo as a "complete falsehood."

**280,000 Canadians in Ranks.**

Ottawa, March 21.—Latest recruiting figures, announced to-day, show that about 280,000 men have enlisted in Canada. Nearly 118,000 are from the Province of Ontario, 63,000 from the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan combined, 30,000 from the Province of Quebec and 25,000 each from British Columbia, Alberta and the Maritime Provinces.

2

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Imported Tweed in Tan, Gray or Green Mixtures; satin lined sleeves and yoke. Also Gabardines in Tan or Gray.

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**Silk Half Hose**

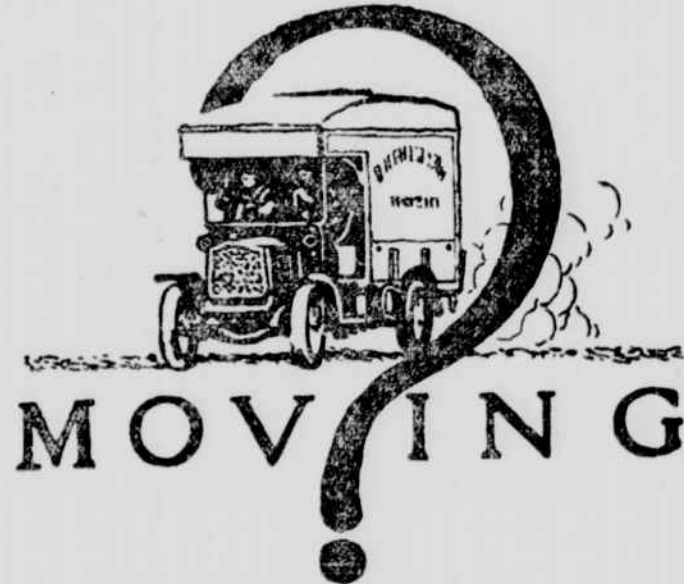
1.45

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